The Minneapolis Fire and Emergency Preparedness Office, under the Citizens Corps banner, will be offering training for the formation of Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT).

The target audiences for this course are private citizens and neighborhood and community groups that want the skills and knowledge required to prepare for and respond to a disaster.



What Does CERT Do?

The purpose of CERT training is to provide citizens with the basic skills required to handle virtually all of their own needs and then to be able to respond to their neighborhood's needs in the aftermath of a disaster.

What Does the Course Involve?

The Community Emergency Response Team course consists of 21 hours of training, one night per week, for seven weeks. Classes are taught by emergency responders from the City of Minneapolis.

The course agenda includes the following:

Week 1 DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Introduction to disasters, impact of disasters on infrastructures, the role of CERTs in disaster response.

Week 2 DISASTER FIRE SUPPRESSION

Identifying and reducing potential fire hazards, basic fire suppression strategy, resources, and techniques.

Week 3 DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS – PART 1

Treatment strategies for life-threatening conditions and principles of triage.

Week 4 DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS - PART 2

Head-to-toe assessments, treatment for various injuries.

Week 5 LIGHT SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS

Techniques for size-up and search, lifting, cribbing and removing victims, rescuer safety.

Week 6 PRE-STORM CERT OPERATIONS

Protecting your home from severe weather, personal readiness, CERT equipment, organizing your team.

Week 7 POST-STORM CERT OPERATIONS

Organizing, deploying teams, communications and recovery. Final exercise.

Neighborhood and community groups interested in forming teams and receiving this training should contact Deputy Chief Richard Turner, Director of Emergency

Preparedness, Minneapolis Fire Department, at (612) 673-2870 or dick.turner@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.